

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. In this response, claims 1, 6, 13, 14, 16, 17, 22, 29 and 30 have been amended. New claim 34 has been added. No claims have been cancelled in this response. Claim 2 was cancelled without prejudice in the previous response.

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method comprising:

associating areas of a touch interface of a mobile electronic device with letters ~~such that each area is associated with only one letter and wherein~~ at least some of the associated areas are defined to overlap with one another to form intermediate regions that represent more than one letter;

detecting a location of a user's touch on said touch interface; and

for each area of said touch interface which includes said location, identifying the letter associated therewith.

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising:

if two or more letters are identified, using predictive text software to determine which of said identified letters said user intended to select.

Claim 4 (Original): The method of claim 3, further comprising:

providing said predictive text software with an indication that said location is closer to one of said identified letters than to others of said identified letters.

Claim 5 (Original): The method of claim 3, further comprising:

providing said predictive text software with an indication of how much closer said location is to one of said identified letters than to others of said identified letters.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A mobile electronic device comprising:

one or more touch interfaces to receive a touch by a user;

means for displaying one or more rows of letters;

means for associating areas of said one or more touch interfaces with said letters ~~such that each area is associated with only one letter and wherein~~ at least some one of the areas are defined to overlap with one another to form intermediate regions that represent more than one letter; and

a microprocessor configured to identify which letters are associated with said areas of said one or more touch interfaces that include a location of said touch.

Claim 7 (Original): The mobile electronic device of claim 6, wherein said one or more touch interfaces is a single touchpad.

Claim 8 (Original): The mobile electronic device of claim 7, wherein said rows of letters are spaced at a sufficient vertical distance that there is no ambiguity as to which row of letters is being touched.

Claim 9 (Original): The mobile electronic device of claim 6, wherein said one or more touch interfaces are two or more touchpads.

Claim 10 (Original): The mobile electronic device of claim 6, wherein said one or more touch interfaces is a single touchscreen.

Claim 11 (Original): The mobile electronic device of claim 10, wherein said rows of letters are spaced at a sufficient vertical distance that there is no ambiguity as to which row of letters is being touched.

Claim 12 (Original): The mobile electronic device of claim 10, wherein for at least one particular letter, an area of said touchscreen associated with said particular letter is overlapped by an area of said touchscreen associated with a different letter of an adjacent row.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The mobile electronic device of claim 6, wherein for at least one particular letter, an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with said particular letter is completely overlapped jointly by a portion of an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with an adjacent letter to the left of said particular letter to form a first intermediate region and by a portion of an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with an adjacent letter to the right of said particular letter to form a second intermediate region, wherein the first and second intermediate regions are adjacent to one another.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The mobile electronic device of claim 6, wherein for at least one particular letter, an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with said particular letter is partially overlapped by a portion of an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with an adjacent letter to the left of said particular letter to form a first intermediate region and by a portion of an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with an adjacent letter to the right of said particular letter to form a second intermediate region, wherein the first and second intermediate regions are not adjacent to one another.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The mobile electronic device of claim 6, wherein said microprocessor is configured to execute a predictive text software module to determine which of said identified letters said user intended to select.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, wherein for at least one particular letter, the associating step comprises associating an area of said touch interface with said particular letter by completely overlapping jointly said area by a portion of an area of said touch interface associated with an adjacent letter to the left of said particular letter to form a first intermediate region and by a portion of an area of said touch interface associated with an adjacent letter to the right of said particular letter to form a second intermediate region, wherein the first and second intermediate regions are adjacent to one another.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, wherein for at least one particular letter, the associating step comprises associating an area of said touch interface with said particular letter by partially overlapping said area by a portion of an area of said touch interface associated with an adjacent letter to the left of said particular letter to form a first intermediate region and by a portion of an area of said touch interface associated with an adjacent letter to the right of said particular letter to form a second intermediate region, wherein the first and second intermediate regions are not adjacent to one another.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, wherein for at least one particular letter, the associating step comprises associating an area of said touch interface with said particular letter by bounding said area by the horizontal centers of adjacent letters on the same row as the particular letter, and by the vertical centers of adjacent letters on upper and lower adjacent rows.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The method of any claim 1, wherein for at least one particular letter, the associating step comprises associating an area of said touch interface with said particular letter by joining the centers of letters nearest to the particular letter.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The mobile electronic device of claim 6, wherein for at least one particular letter, an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with said particular letter is bounded by the horizontal centers of adjacent letters on the same row as the particular letter, and by the vertical centers of adjacent letters on upper and lower adjacent rows.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The mobile electronic device of claim 6, wherein for at least one particular letter, an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with said particular letter is bounded by joining the centers of letters nearest to the particular letter.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): A mobile electronic device comprising:

one or more touch interfaces configured to display one or more rows of letters and receive a touch by a user; and

a microprocessor configured to associate areas of said one or more touch interfaces with said letters wherein at least some of the associated areas are defined to overlap with one another to form intermediate regions that represent more than one letter such that each area is associated with only one letter and at least some of the areas overlap with one another, and said microprocessor is further configured to identify which letters are associated with said areas of said one or more touch interfaces that include a location of said touch.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The mobile electronic device of claim 22, wherein said one or more touch interfaces is a single touchpad.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The mobile electronic device of claim 23, wherein said rows of letters are spaced at a sufficient vertical distance that there is no ambiguity as to which row of letters is being touched.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The mobile electronic device of claim 22, wherein said one or more touch interfaces are two or more touchpads.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The mobile electronic device of claim 22, wherein said one or more touch interfaces is a single touchscreen.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The mobile electronic device of claim 26, wherein said rows of letters are spaced at a sufficient vertical distance that there is no ambiguity as to which row of letters is being touched.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The mobile electronic device of claim 26, wherein for at least one particular letter, an area of said touchscreen associated with said particular

letter is overlapped by an area of said touchscreen associated with a different letter of an adjacent row.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): The mobile electronic device of claim 22, wherein for at least one particular letter, an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with said particular letter is completely overlapped jointly by a portion of an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with an adjacent letter to the left of said particular letter to form a first intermediate region and by a portion of an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with an adjacent letter to the right of said particular letter to form a second intermediate region, wherein the first and second intermediate regions are adjacent to one another.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): The mobile electronic device of claim 22, wherein for at least one particular letter, an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with said particular letter is partially overlapped by a portion of an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with an adjacent letter to the left of said particular letter to form a first intermediate region and by a portion of an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with an adjacent letter to the right of said particular letter to form a second intermediate region, wherein the first and second intermediate regions are not adjacent to one another.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): The mobile electronic device of claim 22, wherein said microprocessor is configured to execute a predictive text software module to determine which of said identified letters said user intended to select.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The mobile electronic device of claim 22, wherein for at least one particular letter, an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with said particular letter is bounded by the horizontal centers of adjacent letters on the same row as the particular letter, and by the vertical centers of adjacent letters on upper and lower adjacent rows.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): The mobile electronic device of claim 22, wherein for at least one particular letter, an area of said one or more touch interfaces associated with said particular letter is bounded by joining the centers of letters nearest to the particular letter.

Claim 34 (New): A computer readable medium storing instructions for execution by a processor of a mobile device for causing the mobile device to implement the method of claim 1.